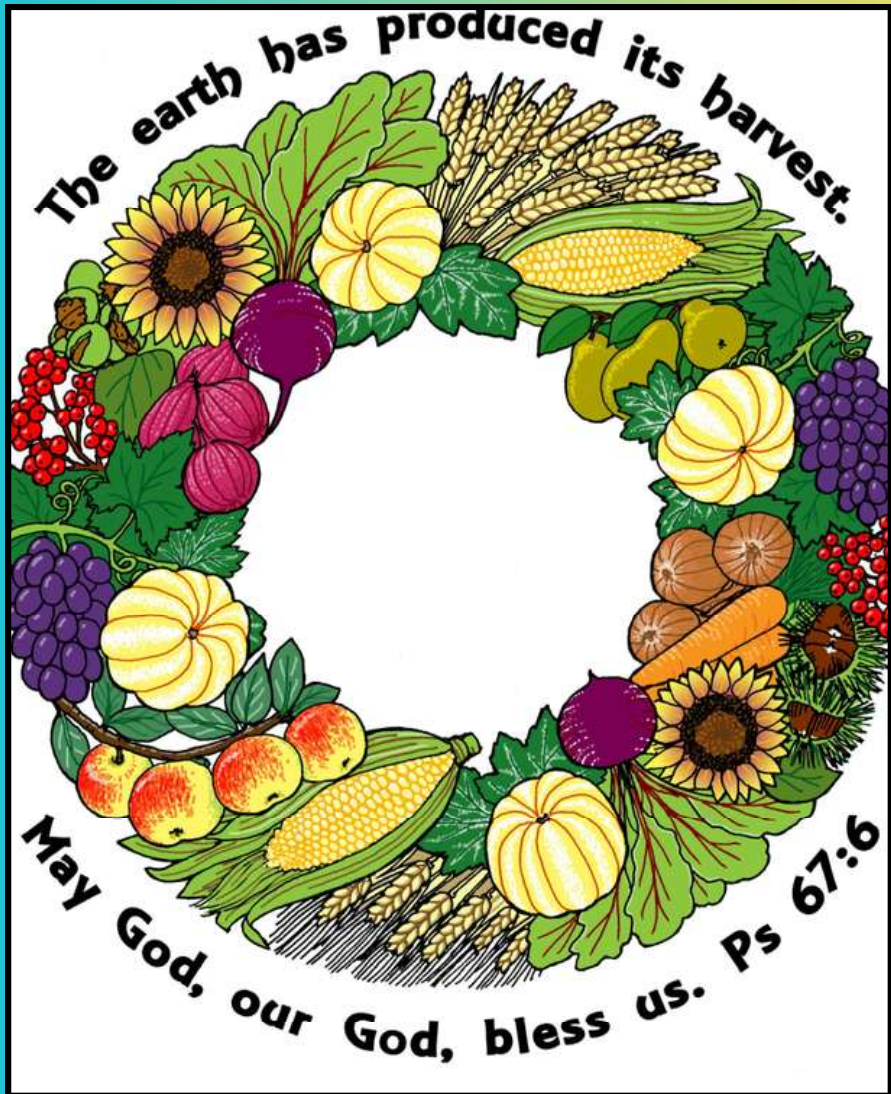


MEMO

Middlesbrough & Eston Methodist Outburst

SEPTEMBER — NOVEMBER 2026



FROM THE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

September brings a sense of fresh starts. Schools reopen, church activities resume, and our community gathers once again with renewed energy.

In the Methodist tradition, we are a connectional people—we grow in faith together, supporting one another through every season of life. As we step back into our regular groups, fellowship times, and worship services, let us ask ourselves: How can we open our doors even wider this term? Who around us might be looking for a warm, welcoming community?

"To everything there is a season, a time for every purpose under heaven." — Ecclesiastes 3:1

In October, we celebrate Harvest Thanksgiving—a cherished highlight in our calendar. It is a time to thank God for creation's abundance, the food on our tables, and the daily gifts we so easily take for granted.

Yet, harvest is also a reminder of our calling to love our neighbours in practical ways. In a world where many face insecurity and rising costs, our thanksgiving must overflow into action. Through our local foodbank collections, community meals, and support for [Local Charity / World Church Partners], we live out John Wesley's simple yet profound advice:

- Do all the good you can,
- By all the means you can,
- In all the ways you can.

As November arrives, the days grow shorter and the air turns colder. It is a month dedicated to memory—honouring those who served and sacrificed on Remembrance Sunday, and remembering loved ones who have gone before us.

While late autumn can bring moments of grief or quiet solemnity, our faith points us toward enduring hope. We do not walk through the darker days alone. The God who created the shifting seasons remains faithful, steadfast, and ever-present. As we look ahead toward the season of Advent at the end of November, we hold fast to the light that no darkness can overcome.

The Communications Team

DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION OF MEMO

**Please send all contributions to the Communications Team C/O the Circuit office,
Nunthorpe Methodist Church, Connaught Road, Nunthorpe, Middlesbrough TS7 0BS**

**Or email to mbrocircuit@gmail.com
by 1st November 2026**



The Superintendent's Letter

Dear Friends,

Many of you know about the traditional harvest festival in our churches, but did you know that many churches of different denominations have started celebrating a season called 'Creation Time'? Back in 1989, the leader of the Orthodox Church worldwide, suggested that the first day of the Orthodox new year (September 1st) should be a day of prayer for the protection of the natural environment. Since then the European Christian Environmental Network and Churches Together in Britain have expanded on this, dedicating the period 1st September to 4th October to prayer for the protection of creation and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles. This period became known as 'Creation Time' or 'Creation Tide'. The Methodist Church have also put together resources for this season which can be accessed from their website

<https://www.methodist.org.uk/for-churches/resources/seasons-and-themes/themes/climate-and-creation/>.

Care of God's world is an important theme for the church to consider. We feel the effects of climate change here in Britain. For us it results in more chaotic weather patterns, confusion of the seasons and increasing difficulties for those making a living from the land. However, climate change is often felt most acutely by those who live in some of the poorest countries of the world.

Often they live on land which is vulnerable to drought or flood. Such marginal land is very susceptible to changes in climate and recent rises in global temperature have led to incredible suffering for those ill equipped to cope. Aid organisations such as our own Methodist Relief and Development Fund can help with the provision of tools and training. With the right support it is possible to grow new crops, conserve the soil, or provide irrigation. Such basic help can mean the difference between life and death. However, it is very much up to us in the developed world to live responsibly and to reduce our impact on the climate.

The writers of the Old Testament had a very humble understanding of the human place in the natural world. They believed quite simply that we should not exploit selfishly what God has freely given to us. They believed God was in charge and that men and women were stewards of his creation. Adam and Eve's job in Genesis was to tend the garden which God had planted. There is no suggestion that they should exploit or abuse the natural world (as many have done since). They are merely the stewards of the things God has given them to look after. That is an instructive model for us to follow when we consider our relationship with the world in which we live. I hope you might be able to mark 'Creation Time' in your Churches in some way this year. If you are aiming for your Eco Church bronze, silver or gold award, you'll probably be looking for ways to include creation care in your worship. Alternatively you might be looking for children's activities on this theme, or perhaps simply looking for a fresh focus for your harvest service.

The psalmist tells us that,

"The earth is the Lord's and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it;" (Psalm 24)

It is a good reminder of who is in charge. A dose of biblical humility might be just what we need to persuade us to live more responsibly and to treat the world gently.

Yours in Christ,

Rev'd David Godfrey



Obituary - Denise Nixon

Friends at Trinity were shocked and saddened to hear of the sudden tragic death of Denise Nixon.

Denise was a lovely lady, quiet and unassuming. She was the type of person who did things quietly and without fuss. Denise was a Vestry Steward, Pastoral Visitor, helped the Sunday School and with cleaning the premises and was a valuable worker in the Eco-shop and Café. She was willing to help anywhere she was needed.

Denise has left a very large gap at Trinity and she will be greatly missed. We continue to pray for Bernard and all her family and friends. May she rest in peace in God's loving arms.

Jean Reeve

Denise was my wonderful and loving friend for over 60 years, I will miss her greatly. Elaine



Obituary - Keith Martin Johnson

19 th June 1971 – 10 th July 2026

“The Star that just keeps Shining”

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our dear friend Keith Johnson. Keith passed away on 10th July following a long and bravely fought battle with Multiple System Atrophy aged just 55 years old.

Keith leaves a huge hole in the life of Normanby Methodist Church but also a great legacy in the lives of everyone he touched. From just 18 years old he became our youngest and longest serving steward; he was our safe guarding officer, Sunday School teacher and a leader of our youth club, touching the lives of hundreds of young people that passed through our doors.

Keith was also a long-standing member of the circuit meeting and synod serving non-stop for many years.

Keith undertook every task and challenge with the brightest of smiles on his face and was, as with all of his family, the kindest and most generous of people. We will miss him terribly but we at Normanby are privileged to be able to call him our friend and brother in Christ.

Pat Barrett.

We were told at Keith's service of celebration that a nurse caring for Keith said ‘He was the star that just keeps shining’ how right she was. I will always remember Keith for his smile, colourful attire, generosity and welcoming nature. Keith was always well organised; at the end of a meeting, we would always turn to Keith who would refer to his note book and make sure we had not missed anything. Keith loved the youth club trip to the pantomime; he prepared a bag of sweets and drink for everyone and made sure no one was missed. Keith continued his caring nature for others after his passing by donating his brain to medical research, with the hope that the research would find the cause of his illness and help with future treatment and possibly prevention for others in the future. He hoped if he could save at least one person going through what he went through he had achieved his goal. God Bless you Keith.

Nigel Marsh

Let me but live my life from from year to year, with forward face and reluctant soul:

Not hurry to, nor turning from the goal; not mourning for the things that disappear
in the dim past, nor holding back in fear from what the future veils;
but with a whole and happy heart, that pays its toll to Youth and Age,
and travels on with cheer.

Henry Van Dyke

A prayer for the start of the Connexional year

O Christ of the morning,
You who sang the stars into being,
Sing again into our hearts today.

As a new year unfolds,
we walk into the next verse of your story,
the next line of your song.

May the Spirit stir our memory,
reminding us who we are a
your people, your melody,
each life a note in your unfolding hymn.

Guide us in courage,
hold us in love,
send us with hope.
In the name of the One who goes before us,
beside us, and sings within us
Christ our companion,

Amen.

RIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

Wednesday Hour at Nunthorpe Methodist Church

Speakers this Autumn at our fortnightly afternoon event include another crime session from Mark Braithwaite. He has entertained us with the inside story of Canoe Man, a former prison officer and teacher from Seaton Carew, Hartlepool, who faked his own death in a staged canoeing accident in the North Sea in March 2002 to collect life insurance and fraud payouts due to heavy debts. The following year we were fascinated by the inside story of "Double Jeopardy" the real-life story of Ann Ming, from Thornaby who spent 17 years relentlessly campaigning to overturn the 800-year-old British double jeopardy law so her daughters killer could finally be brought to justice. Mark will be speaking to us about yet more past cases at our session **2.00pm on Wednesday 16th September**. All are welcome! All our sessions are promoted on our page on the memc.uk website..

CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS

Abiding in Jesus

This is the time of year for many churches to hold their Harvest Festival services. No doubt, there will be displays of food, some bought with others grown in gardens and allotments. While gardeners can have pleasure growing fruit and vegetables it can be hard work tending to them and dealing with pests.



Jesus knew about the care given to vines. In John 15:1-8 Jesus compared Himself to a vine and referred to God as the gardener. These verses are both challenging and reassuring. In this parable, God is responsible for pruning the vine. He sees what parts are useful and what parts are useless. The unproductive parts are cut away, so that growth is encouraged. Jesus is telling us that God will prune our lives, not to harm us, but to encourage our spiritual growth.

God's pruning cuts away wrong attitudes and wasteful behaviour, all of which serve no useful purpose in our lives. This pruning is required so that we become more fruitful. And the fruit God wants is love, joy, patience etc. (see Galatians 5:22-23) These holy qualities are intended to influence the world to change it from the bad to all that is good.



To encourage its growth, a vine has to be regularly cut back. The effect looks drastic, but essential. When God cuts away the dead wood in our lives He does it because He knows how our lives can grow. The pruning knives are in the hands of our Father God who only desires the best for us. The pruning process can be painful, but Jesus says that it is vital if the Holy Spirit is to flow through us to produce the fruit that God wants.

Also in this parable, Jesus said He was the vine, and we are the branches. We have no existence apart from Jesus. We can do nothing for God on our own and must be joined to Jesus. In the same way a vine utilises the life-giving sap to flow into the branches, so we need the Holy Spirit to flow His life into us. It is only by remaining in Jesus can He give us the inner resources for an effective fruit-producing life.

Jesus said 'Abide in Me' (John 15:4 King James Version). Abiding speaks of sustenance, being upheld and supported, enduring and withstanding. So, if we are to reap a harvest of holiness, may we be prepared for God's pruning, and continue to abide in Jesus, our Lord and Saviour.

The Parish Pump

Here are Autumn Quiz questions to get your brain working



1. In Autumn do you turn your clocks forwards or backwards?
2. On which day of creation did God create fruit-bearing trees?
3. Arachnophobia is the fear of what?
4. Who had a hit single in 1989 with "We Didn't Start The Fire"?
5. How many fruits of the Spirit does Paul list in Galatians?
6. Bonfire Night is celebrated on the 5th November, but in which year was the Gunpowder Plot?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 20

Reflections from a Vice President

Between June 2024 and July 2025, I had the privilege of serving as Vice-President of the Methodist Conference. It was an unexpected honour, following a long line of lay Vice-Presidents since lay people were first admitted to the Methodist Conference in 1878.

The President and Vice-President together provide leadership for the Methodist Church in Britain, representing the Church across the Connexion, with partner organisations and overseas churches.

During my year of office I travelled to the Bahamas, the Turks and Caicos Islands, Malta, Italy and Ireland, worshipping with Methodist communities and seeing first-hand the worldwide Methodist family at work. Although cultures, languages and even church notices were different—Caribbean congregations, for example, were preparing for hurricane season—I was struck by how much we shared. Everywhere I encountered people committed to following Christ, serving their communities and challenging injustice.

One visit to Nassau in the Bahamas has stayed with me. I visited a Methodist project supporting children living in poverty, providing meals, homework help and clothing. I watched older children helping younger ones choose donated clothes. The compassion and commitment of the volunteers were inspiring, reminding me that faithful service can transform lives.

Wherever I travelled, one truth became increasingly clear: God does extraordinary things through ordinary people.

I found the same lesson across Britain. On the island of Yell in Shetland, I met a group of people aged from fourteen to over ninety making knitted and crocheted items for refugees in Ukraine. Surrounded by tea, homemade baking and conversation, they had created a welcoming community while quietly serving others. In another church, I heard about a recently widowed woman who paused outside the chapel every Sunday, wanting to come in but unable to take that first step. One day someone simply came outside, spoke to her and walked through the door beside her. Today she is a church steward and helps lead a bereavement group. One ordinary act of kindness changed the course of her life.

Paul uses the image in 1 Corinthians 12 when he describes the Church as the Body of Christ. Each of us has different gifts, experiences and callings, yet every contribution matters. Our churches are wonderfully diverse, but together we reveal something of God's Kingdom.

Looking back over my year as Vice-President, that is the lesson I will carry with me. Whether in the Caribbean, Italy, Ireland, Shetland or more locally church, I have seen God working through ordinary people who faithfully offer what they have.

So perhaps the question for each of us is simply this: What ordinary thing can I offer God this week? A listening ear, a prayer, a cup of tea, a warm welcome or an act of kindness may seem insignificant, but in God's hands ordinary faithfulness can have an extraordinary impact.

Carolyn Godfrey



Carolyn meeting the
President of Malta



Filming the Easter reflections
at South Gare



Speaking at Central Hall
Westminster

StF 672 Where can we find you Lord Jesus Our Master?

It's a new church year and here is a relatively newish hymn from Singing the Faith. It was written in about 1993 and The Methodist Church Website tells us that its author, Allan Dickinson [1954-2014] was an IT consultant for the Health Service in Cardiff, where he lived for thirty years. Although raised as a Methodist, Allan became a Baptist lay preacher and had a deep concern for the poor and marginalised, "the poor, the homeless, the people that respectable people wouldn't touch with a barge pole". At the same time, Allan had heard a sermon arguing that, as Christians, we shouldn't wait for people to "come through the doors to us". Instead, we should go out to them, for that is where Christ is today. In many ways that's maybe what our mission team at the Methodist Hub, Linthorpe Rd are doing, going out into Middlesbrough's streets and shops to where people are found. The hymn's verse structure is a series of answers to the question: Where can we find you, Lord Jesus? The answer is not, in the sanctuary in a church, or in bread and wine, or on pages of the bible, or the words and soaring music of an organ or worship group, but instead Jesus is to be found in bare, empty farmlands, in the streets where the homeless sleep, and in actively seeking out the outcast. The hymn, a mini-sermon, reminds us that's what Jesus did. He went out to meet people where they were and we his followers are to do the same.

Dickinson's hymn has us asking a key question of Jesus. Where can we find you? It seems that when Dickinson lived in Cardiff, the Baptist church he was with had a range of ecumenical relationships within the city. Those relationships were typified in the "The Shop", run as part of a local covenant relationship. The initiative also operated as a drop-in centre, a food bank and an advice centre, so showing in practical ways the ideas expressed in Allan's own hymn. I would suggest that similar initiatives in our churches Trinity and Grove Hill, meet people where they are.

The hymn is set to the tune Epiphany composed by Joseph Francis Thrupp [1827-1867]. He was the son of a solicitor, and educated at Winchester School and Trinity College, Cambridge so he was posh. He was appointed Vicar of Barrington, Cambridge, in 1852, and Select Preacher before the University in 1865. He was also for some time a member of the Board of Theological Studies, and was associated with the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge some 20 years. His tune is a lovely one which you might be more used to singing in the new year, in January, to Reginald Heber's Brightest and best of the sons of the morning about how exotic wise men, searched for and found the baby Jesus at his nativity and who brought riches: gems, pearls, gold and status to lay down before the him. Yet Heber's hymn agrees with Dickinson "....dearer to God are the prayers of the poor". In 672 Jesus points out: "I had no comforts but what others gave me... go and do likewise and don't count the cost."

This hymn promotes an outward-looking, practical ministry, which stems from the example of Jesus, and is reflected elsewhere in Allan's unpublished texts. In this harvest hymn, "Sing the praise of God the Father" he wrote:

As we celebrate the harvest,
And the time to reap the land,
Let us not forget the needy –
Now's the time to make a stand.
Can we share what we have given?
With good things we have been blessed.
Those of us with more to offer,
Let us give to help the rest.



Ruth Lewis

MAP Project Managers Report



Summary: This report reflects on four years of MAP's work, celebrating the strength of its regular activities, the commitment of volunteers and partners, and the positive impact of funding that has supported community, wellbeing, creativity, and inclusion. It also marks a personal moment of transition, offering thanks to all who have contributed to MAP's work and helped sustain its welcoming and supportive community.

It has been a great privilege to lead MAP over the past four years, which seem to have flown by as I sit to write this final contribution to MEMO. I am due to retire on 21 August and am spending much of my remaining time preparing things for my successor.

Our programme is still going strong. We have said goodbye to several members over the past few months, several of whom played a role in volunteering and helping during activities. We say a heartfelt thank you for their contribution to our community and wish them well on the next stage of their more settled journey.

Our regular activities continue to thrive, including English sessions in Redcar on Wednesday afternoons and at MAP, Borough Road, on Fridays. On Thursdays, we have a lovely mix of events, with Music Café in the mornings and Women's Crafts in the afternoon. After 'Come and Chat' English on Fridays, we have a communal meal cooked by our chefs, Bob and Belle. We use Mondays and Tuesdays for administration, visiting Middlesbrough College, courses, and trips out.

We have recently commenced a bi-monthly 'Life in the UK' event with Yolande Mace from Middlesbrough council, these events have been well attended and the future looks bright for further success in enabling many of our members to learn many things they may be unaware of.

I would like to thank all our funders over the years for making our work possible. I am especially grateful to our partners in the Ariadne partnership: Open Door North-East, British Red Cross, Justice First, and Refugee Futures. Together, the whole was greater than the sum of its parts.

MAP has also received funding from the John Paul II Fund via the Middlesbrough RC Diocese. We are so grateful for this kind gift, which, as agreed, we use for health and wellbeing activities for our members. To this end, we have organised walks and days out to Captain Cook's Monument in Great Ayton, Osmotherley, and Skinningrove to Saltburn. In the early months of 2026, we held an eight-week series of sessions where artists worked with our members to produce artworks, poems, and notices sharing their experiences of life in the UK and some happy memories. This was health and wellbeing art therapy. In the same vein, we have developed a relationship with Somewhere Else in Stockton, to which we have taken four groups so far. Members can try pottery, woodwork, and crafts in a beautifully designed environment, and can make personal appointments with the counsellors if required. As a further part of our wellbeing offering, we are taking two large trips out to Ampleforth in late July and Saltburn in mid-August. We will have two large coaches with families, as well as single people, to enjoy the Moors and the seaside and escape the built environment for a while. These journeys are always fun, though a little tiring for staff and volunteers.

On that last point, I will close. Our volunteers are dear to us; we could not conduct the work we do without them, and they are treasured. So, I would like to say a very big thank you to all who have contributed to the work of MAP during my tenure. Finally, I cannot thank Hamid enough for his constant support, skills, and friendship. I feel greatly blessed to have served with him in my role and will miss our many times together, sorting things out through good and difficult times. Many thanks to all for everything. BILLY.

Our Project Manager Billy Barnes retired in August. We as the Circuit thank him for his four years of support and dedication to MAP

STANTON VILLAGE BIG SING

On Sunday, June 14th we once again held our ecumenical Big Sing. It really was well attended and thankfully it was rain free.

We sat in the village square appreciating all God's Creation, the theme of this year's Big Sing. Revd. David and Revd. Laura (vicar from Parish Church of St Peter and St Paul) and Revd. Vanessa (pioneer minister with the Parish Church) guided us through the service accompanied by Marske Brass Band. This year the band comprised mainly of members from the Junior section and they were excellent.

We were delighted that we had three American youngsters to read the chosen Bible passages. They were part of the team members from Biltmore Church, which is one church meeting in seven locations across western North Carolina, a state dominated by the Appalachian Mountains. The members were based in Hemlington, Easterside and Linthorpe for a week and were on mission serving and working with Teesside churches. The Hemlington team visited Montpellier Manor on the Tuesday morning for hymn singing and chat and in the afternoon they visited Stainton Lodge Car Home. Another activity for them was to repaint Hemlington Rec skate park and lead an assembly at Hemlington Hall Academy. Altogether the team members had a very busy week so we were fortunate that they found time in their hectic schedule to join our Big Sing and hopefully will have made memories to take back to North Carolina.

The afternoon concluded with refreshments and chat in the Memorial Hall. We are always appreciative of the hall committee who make the hall available for us and Rosemary who once again provided delicious homemade cakes.

Donations amounted to £71 which have now been given to the Unicorn Centre, Riding for the Disabled. They were so grateful as every donation helps to make sure this much used and needed facility continues.

So although we no longer have a building where we can gather together, everyone from the Circuit, village and beyond can assemble to sing God's praises and give thanks for His wonderful creation sitting in Meldyke Square.

Remember same place, same month next year!

Claire Tate





TRINITY RAMBLERS

It was Saturday morning and we were driving to Strikes Garden Centre to meet our rambling friends for coffee, when I started to ponder about our group.

In 1990 interested friends met at the home of Mary Lynch, as our then Minister Rev. Leslie Wyatt had suggested that we could walk together, rather than on our own. Hence the start of Trinity Ramblers.

We decided that we would walk every other Saturday, taking turns to lead the walks. I remember the first rota we made where 'Mr. and Mrs Reeve' would lead a walk – but as we got to know one another better, every following year the rota read - Bill and Jean, and we were all known by our Christian names. Our walks over the North Yorks moors and Yorkshire Dales were anything between 15 and 20 miles irrespective of the weather. Well over 50 people have walked with us over the past 35 years and we used to spend 2 or 3 days each year staying in the Lake District. For a couple of years our group was so big that we could not fit into the hotel and some friends had to stay close by as we had taken up every room at Dalegarth House. In that hotel we saw out three different owners, we even had our 'own' rooms. Each evening different members would arrange a quiz – perhaps the favourite being recognising photos of walks we had been on the previous year, but with such poor memories we always disputed the results – all part of the fun.

Over the years the distances have decreased, the heights climbed have got smaller – almost flat and it now has to be 'dry'. Actually our rambling meetings still occur every other week, but its coffee and talking, rather than walking. We still have our Christmas meal together which is good.

Sadly we've lost such a lot of our friends over the last few years and they are greatly missed.



Going back to that drive to Strikes, there are still 3 of the original members meeting, all aged 85 and counting. Over the past 35 years we've had some wonderful fellowship, memories and fun. We will continue to meet and have found some "new" coffee places. If you know anywhere where the coffee is good and maybe new to us - come and join us - as it says in the hymn "All are

welcome in this place".

Bill Reeve

A Big Breakfast at Nunthorpe Methodist Church

A Harvest Supper? So last century! It's the 21st Century now!

Breakfasts are the new social events! Once again Nunthorpe Methodists are having one of their ever popular Big Breakfasts, a chance to eat freshly cooked bacon, sausages, eggs, hash-browns, beans, toast and other brekkie favourites. Veggie alternatives available.



This year come any time after 9.30am before the combined Harvest/Anniversary Service which starts at 11.00am on Sunday 27th September. A generous donation to Middlesbrough Food Bank is all we ask in exchange for efficiently served delicious food and great company!

You don't even have to come to our service! Just come, eat breakfast, and go on to your own church, or at home, turn to your favourite on-line worship!

RESILIENT WOMEN DAY MFC

A few months ago I was invited to share in a panel on day organised by The Amal Project and Middlesbrough Football Club at the Riverside Stadium.

The day which celebrated both International Women's Day and Eid was a celebration of resilience amongst women.

Amongst the speakers and panel members were Victoria Fuller, the chief Constable of Cleveland Police, a personal trainer who is recovering from breast cancer, Sahida Ditta the founder of the Amal Project, Revd. Charity and also Stacey a young woman who was on the front of many newspapers for pushing a burning bin towards police during the riots in August 2024.



Of all the speakers, Stacey's story felt like the most raw, real and profound. A young woman trapped in cycles of addiction and chaos she got caught up in the riots and subsequently was sentenced and spent time in prison. Stacey got clean from substance misuse and is rebuilding her life but she's also doing more than that, alongside her former primary school teacher she is actively engaging in public conversations about the reasons behind the riots, race relations, community cohesion, poverty and the possibility of flourishing after things go wrong.

I don't know really what resilience is but I know that Stacey is a shining example of someone who is making a second chance work so that she and those around her can flourish. This is exactly the message of the Gospel and, for me, it's yet another instance of God showing up outside of the walls of the Church buildings.

Revd. Charity Hamilton



MONTPELLIER MANOR

CHAPLAINCY NEWS



We at Montpellier Manor have been enjoying the Summer days.

Spending time in the garden and enjoying cold drinks from our Coffee shop.

Our coffee shop is open for Community cafe on a Wednesday between 2-4pm

You are welcome to pop in for delicious coffee and cakes, cold drinks, meet with friends, make new friends or have a meeting.

Loneliness is a very big issue in communities, and this was highlighted during MHA Sunday. Montpellier Chaplain Barbara visited Trinity Methodist and St Peter & St Paul Church Stainton to talk about the "second cup" and how important having someone to share a cuppa with is.

At Montpellier we have the Keeping in Touch (KIT) initiative , where, when someone returns home after spending respite time with us, we stay in touch making sure they don't feel lonely after being at Montpellier Manor and having people around them with access to activities.

We continue to enjoy Wednesday worship at 2pm at Montpellier.

Second Wednesday of the month is Cafe Church in the Coffee shop at 2pm led by C of E

Third Wednesday of the month is Communion in our sacred Space with Methodist Church at 2pm, this service is also open to anyone in the community to attend.

The first Sunday of the month is Community Church at Montpellier Manor at 2pm. This is led by the Methodist church, and we are very grateful to our Ministers who lead us on these occasions.

Date for the Diary.

Harvest festival to be held at Montpellier manor Sunday 4th October at 2pm which is also, Community Church. Please join us on this day of celebration. You will be most welcome. We will be collecting non perishable items for the Eco shop at Trinity.

Peace and Blessings ,

Barbara Robinson.
(Chaplain)

Methodist Women in Britain



DISTRICT AUTUMN DAY

Tuesday 6th October - service to be held at Elm Ridge Methodist Church,
Carmel Road, Darlington DL3 8DJ

Refreshments from 10.30am, Service at 11.00am. All Welcome - please bring packed lunch, drinks will be provided.

Afternoon session from 1.15pm

Beryl Haggarth



“Delivery for whoever ordered the trendy alternative to a basket of groceries...”

A lesson in lies

A minister told his congregation, “Next week I plan to preach about the sin of lying. To help you understand my sermon, I want you all to read Mark 17.”

The following Sunday, as he prepared to deliver his sermon, the minister asked for a show of hands. He wanted to know how many had read Mark 17. Every hand went up. The minister smiled and said, “Mark has only 16 chapters. I will now proceed with my sermon on the sin of lying.”

Boasting

Three boys in the schoolyard were bragging about their fathers. The first boy said, “My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a poem, they give him £50.”

The second boy said, “That’s nothing. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a song, they give him £100.”

The third boy said, “I got you both beat. My Dad scribbles a few words on a piece of paper, calls it a sermon, and it takes eight people to collect all the money!”

Home visit

Several women visited a sick elderly lady in their church. After a while, they rose to leave and told her, “Well, don’t worry, we will keep you in our prayers.”

The old woman replied: “Actually, if you would just wash up the dishes in my sink, I can do my own praying.”

Going somewhere

Older people often go to another room to get something, and when they get there, they stand there wondering what they came for. It is not a memory problem. It is God’s way of helping older people get more exercise.

Short-staffed

Two men were working for the town council. One would dig a hole and the other would follow behind him and fill the hole in. They worked up one side of the street, then down the other, then moved on to the next street, working furiously all day without rest, one man digging a hole, the other filling it in again.

An onlooker was amazed at their hard work, but couldn’t understand what they were doing. So he finally approached the hole digger, “I’m impressed by the effort you two are putting in to your work, but I don’t get it – why do you dig a hole, only to have your partner follow behind and fill it up again?”

The hole digger wiped his brow and sighed, “Well, I suppose it probably looks odd because we’re normally a three-person team. But today the guy who plants the trees called in sick.”

Who’s been good?

A father of five young children won a toy at a raffle. Back home, he called his children together to let them determine which one should have the present. “Who is the most obedient?” he asked. “Who never talks back to Mother? Who does everything she says?”

Five small voices answered in unison: “You, Daddy!”

Durham's Other Cathedral: Redhills

Every second Saturday in July, something extraordinary happens in the city of Durham. More than 200,000 people flood the streets. Brass bands fill the air with music. It's Durham Miners' Gala. The Big Meeting. This year the 2026 Gala was the 140th after it resumed following a break due to the General Strike or perhaps called more accurately, the 1926 Lockout. The Methodist Church of Elvet is en route for the marching Bands, and this year had a distinct Methodist presence. A giant model miners' lamp where you could post prayer requests. It's between the two Methodist awnings.



Historically Methodists, in particular Primitive Methodists, played a key role in the formation of the Unionisation of Miners. This role is movingly explored and illustrated if you, like I did this year, take a guided tour of Durham's Other Cathedral, the headquarters of the Durham Miners' Organisation at Redhills home to the Pitman's Parliament. This democratic institution allowed miners, well-schooled in chapels, to debate and pass resolutions on various issues, from pay and working conditions to broader social and political matters. The Pitman's Parliament was a powerful symbol of working-class empowerment and was crucial in shaping the region's social and political landscape, laying the ground for the Welfare State.



Redhills originally opened in 1915, and its debating chamber is superb. No expense was spared using the weekly pennies subs from working miners, because having to negotiate with millionaire mine owners in their formidable country estates, the Pitman wanted their HQ not to be shabby, but to be equally impressive. And it is. Redhills reopened in January 2026, following a £14 million restoration using a grant from the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

It is also home to some of the beautiful Lodge Banners from the Durham Coalfield. Many of the early banners have a Christian Socialist theme because Union Members and leaders were often Methodists and Local Preachers. Banners for both chapels and unions were commissioned and professionally made in London. They are well worth seeing. There are portraits too of miners' leaders and other artefacts. Here is a banner on the Christian theme of the Good Samaritan.

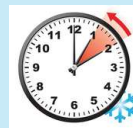


To get there book one of their regular Guided Tours <https://redhillsdurham.org/visit-us/> Discover Redhills: Past, Present & Future. **It is essential you book in advance** as the small group tours of about 20-24 people fills up quite quickly. There is parking, good toilets and an airy cafe with light snacks and refreshments. Our tour lasted 90 minutes, mostly sitting down, as our excellent guide talked us through Redhill's history of Primitive Methodism and Unionism and the stalwart faith and sheer bravery of its early founders. The July Miners' Gala always ends at the original Durham Cathedral with a service and the Miners' hymn Gresham, which our non-church going guide, from a mining family, confessed always reduced her to tears.



Ruth Lewis

**British Summer Time ends on
Sunday 25th October 2026**



Don't forget to put your clocks back one hour.



Town Centre Chaplaincy Event

On June 20th the Middlesbrough Methodist Hub launched the beginnings of the Town Centre Chaplaincy with a morning for 12 people from around the circuit and a community representative.

At this, the first event of a series we had people from each of the churches in the circuit plus the chaplain from Montpelier Manor (MHA) and a representative from Cleveland Police.

Participants were invited with a “golden ticket” and came along to the shop unit on the ground floor of the hub at 10am where they were welcomed with goodie bags & refreshments.

The idea behind the day was to help people from across the circuit understand more of the ministry that takes place out of the hub and in the town centre, to create stronger circuit ownership of that mission & ministry and most of all to enable people to see why we love the town centre!

The team talked about chaplaincy, how they hoped to create an interfaith chaplaincy team and what areas of life in the town centre they work with already. Then Dawn and Andrew took the participants on a prayer walk of the town to help everyone see there is so much in town that is positive and hope-filled. The participants enjoyed seeing lots of things they hadn't already been aware of and came back much more hopeful about the town centre as a space to be for all kinds of different people.

We then shared lunch together with the opportunity to ask the team any questions before sharing some closing remarks and a blessing.



We loved welcoming people from the circuit to share with us and we are planning to hold a similar day each quarter, the next one being in September so watch out for an invitation!

Rev. Charity Hamilton

Leaf some green stuff in the garden

The clocks have gone back, and we are putting our gardens to sleep for the winter. But this autumn, when you tidy up, do not tidy away too much. Many insects and wild creatures will be relying on some ground cover or hideaway to call ‘home’ for the winter. Several piles of twigs or pruning, left around your garden in discreet places, will provide a great winter ‘snugs’ for toads, grass snakes and other small garden inhabitants. ‘Spent’ seed heads provide cover and food for birds over the winter. Above all, before you light any bonfires on 5th November, take care there are no hibernating hedgehogs inside!



NEW PLACES FOR NEW PEOPLE DAY

Rev. David and Rev. Charity went on an outing in May! We went to Brunswick Methodist Church in Newcastle for a day run by the Connexion on "New Places for New People".



A New Place for New People is exactly what it says on the tin, it's a form of church which isn't already in existence created for people who aren't already engaged in any kind of Church. "NPNP" is part of the Methodist Church's "God for All" strategy and the Methodist Church are actively trying to develop and support NPNPs all around the connexion.

We got the train up together and Rev. Bev from Hartlepool joined us. Brunswick is a lovely church which does a lot of work in the centre of Newcastle with the community, it runs a cafe which reminded me of the cafe at Trinity. We heard from connexional staff talking about what it might be like to grow an NPNP, we shared in discussion with others around our tables. There were people present from all over the north of England including Cumbria, Lancashire, Northumberland, Teesside, Sheffield, West Yorkshire so it was good to hear about what is going on in other places.

Over lunch I took the opportunity to catch up with colleagues from other districts in the sunshine and in the afternoon there was a session on finance and practicalities of starting an NPNP.

I often find the real benefit in connexional days like these is hearing the stories of others and finding inspiration and learning through their experiences.

I would also like to note that my superintendent did not bring any train snacks to share and so I think he may need some further training!

Rev. Charity Hamilton

The Art of Letting Go

One of autumn's most profound lessons lies in the falling leaves. Trees do not cling tightly to what served them during the summer; instead, they gently release their leaves to prepare for the cold winter ahead and the renewal that follows in spring.

In our own spiritual lives, autumn invites us to consider what we might need to let go of. Is it worry, past disappointments, or habits that no longer serve our walk with Christ? Trusting God often requires us to release our grip on the past so our hands and hearts are free to receive the new blessings He has in store.

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven."

Ecclesiastes 3:1

Every ten years, the monks in the monastery are allowed to break their vow of silence to speak two words. Ten years go by and it's one monk's first chance. He thinks for a second before saying, "Food bad." Ten years later, he says, "Bed hard." It's the big day, a decade later. He gives the head monk a long stare and says, "I quit." "I'm not surprised," the head monk says. "You've been complaining ever since you got here."

Share a little light this Halloween

Some people aren't sure quite what to feel about Hallowe'en – is it just harmless fun, or are there aspects of it that don't fit in with how we want to see the world?

A child's christening service is very honest about the reality of good and evil, and Hallowe'en can be a good time to talk about those things and how the love of Jesus can be a 'Light in the darkness' for everyone. The word 'hallowe'en' actually means 'the eve of all hallows' day' – in other words, the night before the church's festival celebrating All Saints. A Saint is sometimes thought to be an exceptionally holy person – someone really special, who did extraordinary things because of their faith in God.

The famous saints are all amazing examples of what it's like to live God's way. But in the Bible, St Paul calls all Christians saints – a saint is simply a friend of God, who seeks to live their life according to God's purposes. When someone is christened, they truly become a Saint, so All Saints' Day is a celebration of the whole family of God.

If you'd like to mark Hallowe'en, these are some ideas that will bless others as well as being fun too.

Some churches also have a special service for All Souls Day – a time when we remember our loved ones who have died. There might be an opportunity to go and light a candle to remember someone – even small children grieve in their own way and may find comfort in this simple action.

Carve a pumpkin. Did you know that gargoyles (the scary looking faces carved in stone on churches) were originally made in medieval times to scare away evil spirits? The pumpkins with scary faces carved into them at Hallowe'en are a bit like that.



But Christians believe that you can't fight evil with evil – you can only fight evil with good, and that good will always win in the end. So why not see if you can carve a friendly looking pumpkin this year, as a sign that you and your family are going to be a force for good this Hallowe'en? (And you can always use the offcuts from your pumpkin to make delicious soup!)

You can do the same with Hallowe'en costumes. Superheroes make a great, positive alternative to scary witches and ghosts.

Give a treat. Not everyone is comfortable with the idea of children going round to neighbours' and just asking for treats. But if you don't want them to miss out on something their friends are doing, why not have a family baking session, and take a tray of cookies with you if you go out with them? Even little children can help stick a smiley face on an iced biscuit. That way, you have something lovely to give away to your neighbours, too! Safety first. Many children's fancy dress costumes are highly flammable. Please, don't ever use real candles around your front door or in your pumpkins; use the small battery-powered candles instead. If you can afford to buy a multi-pack of these electric candles, you could lend them to your friends and neighbours.

Say a goodnight prayer. Even if you've steered clear of scary costumes, and even if your child has loved the evening, it can be reassuring to have a goodnight prayer that reminds them that love, and light, and good, are always going to be stronger than fear and evil.

The ancient service of Compline (Night Prayer) has been used as this reminder for centuries, and many of its prayers are still well known today: 'Visit this place, O Lord, we pray and drive far from it all snares of the enemy; let Your holy angels dwell with us to preserve us in peace; and let Your blessing be upon us always, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.'

Or, in a simpler children's version: 'Be with us, Lord, and take away all fear, may your angels protect us and give us peace. And bless us always. Amen.' You can use these lovely prayers any time when you need a reminder that God is with you – especially at the end of a difficult day, or when something sad has happened, or when your family is worried about something.

Article taken from www.churchofenglandchristenings.org with permission.

War and Peace

John Lennon wrote: *'Imagine there's no countries, It isn't hard to do, Nothing to kill or die for, And no religion too. Imagine all the people living life in peace.'* But on Remembrance Sunday, we should reflect on war past and present, and consider the real way to peace.

The way of war: *'What causes fights and quarrels among you? Don't they come from your desires that battle within you? You desire but do not have, so you kill.'* (James 4:1-2). James reminds us that war has its basis in our own hearts, with the selfish desires that exploit, bully and kill others to get our own way. Sadly, when nations allow these inner selfish attitudes to determine their policy the result is war. Only God can establish true peace.

The way of peace: Isaiah, 2,700 years before John Lennon, also imagined a future of peace without any war: *'They will beat their swords into ploughshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore.'* (Isaiah 2:4).

Only Jesus, the Prince of Peace, can bring true peace to our lives and world. Jesus did not experience the horror of battle, but He did die an horrific death at the hand of the Romans. He gave His life sacrificially, as He took God's anger at our sin on Himself and went on to conquer death in His resurrection. He did this out of love for us, and calls us to love others in the same way: *'Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.'* (John 15:13).

How can we demonstrate such love ourselves? We can be confident in God's plan to bring an end to all wars when Jesus returns.

The Parish Pump



“In war, there are no unwounded soldiers.” – José Narosky

This quote reflects the truth that war affects everyone, even those who may not bear visible scars. We can empathize with the emotional and physical burdens that soldiers carry long after their service. On Remembrance Day, we acknowledge the sacrifices made and the wounds that may remain hidden, reinforcing our commitment to support those affected by their service.

“Heroes are made in the hour of crisis.” – Victor Hugo

This quote reminds us that true heroes emerge during tough times. We remember those who stepped up against adversity to ensure our safety and freedom. This Remembrance Day, let's honor those who rose to the occasion, inspiring us to be brave in our lives through humility and service in our communities.

“The greatest glory in living lies not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.” – Nelson Mandela

Mandela's words inspire resilience and hope. On Remembrance Day, we remember those who faced grave challenges but found the strength to rise above them for a cause greater than themselves. We can apply this lesson in our daily lives, encouraging each other to stand back up after setbacks and continue the fight for what's right.

For how many minutes can you concentrate?

Most of us can watch television for only about 15 minutes, or read a book for about 14 minutes, before we lose our concentration. Most of us blame our social media notifications as the reason.



A recent survey by Perspectus Global for Lingo by Abbott, found that Instagram, Facebook, WhatsApp and message alerts were named as the main culprits.

Overall, it seems we can focus for only 11 minutes on a virtual work call, or 13 minutes in a face-to-face meeting, or 12 minutes writing a work email.

We even seem to lose concentration at family gatherings, after only 14 minutes. Overall, four in five of us say that we get distracted easily, and that we lose our focus around eight times each day.

What about you? Why not take up the challenge, and 'time' your losses of concentration for a day?

The Parish Pump

Put together a Memory Book

Do you have grandchildren? Then this winter, during those long dark days, why not spend some time putting together a sort of scrapbook of memories to pass on to them?

Things you might like include could be: where you lived when you were a child; what your school was like, what games you most enjoyed, who your best buddies were, what pets you had, what your first job was, and how you met your partner. What was your first car, and where was your first home as an adult? Add a selection of photographs that you have from the past.



Answers to Quiz on Page 6

1. **Backwards**
2. **3rd day**
3. **Spiders**
4. **Billy Joel**
5. **9 (love, joy, peace, patience (or forbearance), kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control)**
6. **1605**

Buy Nothing Day - 27th November 2026

Buy Nothing Day is a powerful annual protest against overconsumption, consumerism, and the environmental and social harm caused by excessive shopping. Held on the same day as Black Friday in many countries, it challenges us to pause, reflect, and reimagine our relationship with spending. The day is not about rejecting the economy entirely, but about questioning the systems and habits that drive endless buying. It invites individuals and communities to take a stand by refraining from unnecessary purchases for 24 hours and considering more sustainable, mindful alternatives. For many, it becomes a starting point for longer-term change – shifting priorities away from constant consumption toward community, creativity, and sustainability.

When is Buy Nothing Day?

Buy Nothing Day is observed annually on the last Friday in November in many countries, aligning with Black Friday. . In some nations, particularly in Europe, it is held the following day to coincide with Saturday shopping habits. The date is intentionally chosen to contrast with one of the busiest shopping days of the year, turning a spotlight on the contrast between consumerism and conscious living.

This timing is deliberate – Black Friday represents the peak of the holiday shopping season, often marked by flash sales, marketing hype, and frenzied purchasing. Holding Buy Nothing Day at the same time sends a clear message: there are other ways to use your time, energy, and money that do not involve chasing discounts for things you may not need.

The Environmental Footprint of Black Friday

Black Friday and the surrounding shopping season have a measurable environmental impact. The surge in manufacturing, packaging, and transportation for discounted goods generates significant greenhouse gas emissions. For example, express shipping and next-day delivery – heavily promoted during sales events – require faster, less efficient logistics, often involving air freight. The result is a carbon footprint far greater than standard shipping. Packaging waste also spikes, with millions of parcels using plastic wrap, styrofoam, and other materials that are difficult to recycle. Buy Nothing Day stands in direct contrast to this spike in environmental harm, serving as a symbolic and practical pause in consumption.

While Buy Nothing Day is primarily a protest against consumerism, it also offers practical personal finance benefits. By skipping impulse purchases, you can redirect funds toward savings, debt repayment, or meaningful investments. Participating can also help you become more aware of spending triggers, leading to long-term changes in financial habits. Many people find that once they challenge themselves to buy nothing for a day, they are inspired to extend the experiment – turning it into a week, a month, or even a lifestyle shift toward minimalism and intentional living.

While its core message has remained consistent, Buy Nothing Day has evolved to include broader conversations about sustainability, climate change, ethical supply chains, and minimalism. Today, the movement intersects with initiatives such as zero-waste living, slow fashion, and localism, encouraging people to think beyond a single day and make lasting changes to their consumption habits.



Dear Lord,

So far today, I am doing all right. I have not gossiped, lost my temper, been greedy, grumpy, nasty, selfish, or self-indulgent. I have not whined, complained, or cursed. I have not charged on my credit card or eaten any chocolate. However, I am going to get out of bed in a few minutes, and I will need a lot more help after that!

Amen.

Celebration of the 70th Anniversary of our Ladies Circle



Trinity Ladies Circle meets every Monday afternoon at 2 o'clock excluding Bank Holidays and School holidays. This is a relic of the time when we were 'Young Wives' eg young wives with school age children. Now we are older Grandmas and even our great grandchildren no longer need child minding.

We are a contented and placid group of ladies – but NEVER DULL, so when Pat our Secretary told us she had some exciting news we were all agog. "I would like to announce that it is 70 years in October since our Trinity Ladies Circle was formed. Shall we have a celebration?" she said. "Of course!" we chorused then the deliberations started. Our suggestions were many and varied, some relevant and some a source of amusement and embarrassment. "A procession down the middle of the church following a banner?" – Answer – "Oh no!" Sashes like the suffragettes wore" a new proposal – again rejected. "What about a suitable badge?" "Oh, yes – good idea!" the members replied and a design was created and then produced in numbers by our craft leader. Other suggestions which were accepted were a meal out, a hymn of thankfulness to an old tune, and our kind Minister offered to conduct a special Communion to celebrate the foundation and continuity of our wonderful Women's Circle.

Although our present membership is fewer in numbers our members are both as dedicated and enthusiastic as our forebears.

I apologise now for the commercial but please consider coming along and experiencing our activities. We of course put worship and praise at the centre of our meetings.

We have craft classes, fund raising activities for the church charity and the church. These include filling smartie tubes with 20 pence pieces – Pat supplies the tubes – we eat the smarties and then we fill them with 20p's, each tube contains about £13. Everyone generously contributes and it's surprising how much we raise.

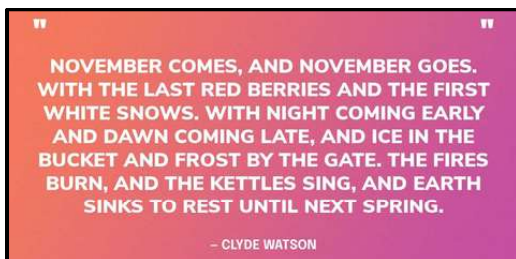
We also bake for our charity tea, our ladies are fabulous cooks and can raise more than £100 for the church charity. Our wonderful treasurer always manages to have a surplus in the tea fund so that is donated too.

The money we raise is only a fringe benefit, we enjoy our meetings with lots of games, but we also share our worries and our joys too. For instance at this time of year we have celebrated the new graduates in their caps and gowns shared with us by their proud grandmas.

Perhaps you may be tempted to come along one Monday afternoon and share our joy.

New members are always welcome.

Norma Arrowsmith



Cheap at the price

A little boy was pestering his parents for a baby brother or sister. They kept telling him 'maybe one day, but we can't afford one yet.' Then one Sunday the little boy dragged his parents over to the noticeboard at the back of church. It was advertising a coming sale at the church and announced: 'Children: free'.

29TH NOVEMBER, FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Waiting is not popular in our culture, when so much can be obtained simply at the press of a button! Advent, when we wait for the coming of Christmas, is also an opportunity to learn what it means to be waiting for the promised return of Jesus. He says: 'It's like a man going away: he leaves his house and puts his servants in charge, each with their assigned task, and tells the one at the door to keep watch. Therefore, keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back' (Mark 13:34-35).



We live between Jesus' first and second comings and this parable reminds us of the need to watch and wait, as disciples living faithfully for Him. It reminds us of two kinds of waiting: passive and active. Imagine you're at the railway station, awaiting the arrival of a train. On the platform a man is asleep, as he thinks there is plenty of time before the train arrives. He is passively waiting. There is also a small boy on the platform who is excited about the train coming. He can't sit still and constantly looks down the track to see if the train is coming. He is actively waiting, for he expects the train to arrive at any moment.

Advent gives us a choice: how will we wait for Jesus' coming? Passive waiting doesn't require much attention on our part. We can live our Christian life pre-occupied with our own concerns, rather than looking to God. However, active waiting involves an eager expectation, as we await Jesus' return or simply look to him coming to us today. All we want is to be found faithful as His disciples. There is nothing more important than being ready to meet our Master!

The Parish Pump

Nunthorpe Methodist Church's

Christmas Fayre

On Saturday 28th November
at 10.00am - 12.30pm

Quality Bric-a-brac, Books, Christmas Gifts,
Knitted Goods, Crafts, Cakes Father Christmas,
Tombola, Jams & Pickles and lots more ...

Seasonal Refreshments

PRAYER DIARY

SEPTEMBER 6th At the start of this new Methodist year, we pray for all our hopes and plan's for our churches as we seek to serve God in the coming months. Pray for children and teachers returning to school for a new year. Pray for Revd David and Nunthorpe.

SEPTEMBER 13th Pray today for the Circuit Meeting taking place on Wednesday, praying for all who have places at this meeting. May we be guided by the Holy Spirit and may decisions be made for the good of all members of our churches. Pray for Revd Charity Hamilton and for the Mission and Ministry to the people of Middlesbrough.

SEPTEMBER 20th Pray for those who are senior citizens and for what they still continue to do in our churches. Pray for those who have had to go in Care. Pray for Methodist Homes for the Aged Communities Teesside at Monpellier Manor, for Barbara Robinson their Chaplain and for the woship being held there.

SEPTEMBER 27th Pray today for churches celebrating Harvest Festival celebrations during these weeks, that we may praise God for all his goodness. Pray for Revd Anne Coates and for Marton

OCTOBER 4th Pray for young people who have gone off to college and university, some leaving home for the first time. Be with their parents and families as they support them from home. Pray for Elaine at the Circuit office and David Everitt our Circuit Webmaster.

OCTOBER 11th Pray for the Plan meeting on Tuesday as we meet to prepare our church services. Pray for all who preach, both Lay and Ordained. Pray for those who may be thinking of God's call to preach that they may have the courage to act upon that call. Pray for Revd John Howard-Norman and Normanby.

OCTOBER 18th Pray today for Peace in our troubled world, for an end to the sounds and sights of war and of suffering. Pray for peace in our own communities that as churches we may be examples of love and forgiveness and healing. Pray for TC Luk and the Chinese Church

OCTOBER 25th Pray today for all who are unwell in body, mind or spirit. Pray for those who care for the sick in their own homes, in hospitals and Residential Care homes. Pray for Grove Hill

NOVEMBER 1st Pray today for those who are homeless, those who feel rejected and have difficulty fitting into our society. Pray for the work of the Methodist Asylum Project, their Project Manager and all who work to help people feel at home in our community.

NOVEMBER 8th On this Remembrance Sunday we pray for peace and for all who still suffer the effects of war, in the present conflicts and conflicts of the past. Pray for all who have given their lives in the cause of peace and freedom and for those who continue to make those sacrifices. 'At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.' Pray today for World Leaders that there may be hope for a better world. Pray for all services of Remembrance whatever their faith or denomination that people may be made aware of the need to work and pray for peace. Pray for Revd Rachel Williams

NOVEMBER 15th Pray for those who are working in our communities around our churches as we seek to reach out to them with the good news of Jesus. Pray for Trinity and the work they do with TFFC and their Eco Shop. Pray for Revd John Howard-Norman

NOVEMBER 22nd Pray for all who work with children and young people in our churches. Pray for Mark Braithwaite our Circuit Safeguarding Officer. Pray for the work done at Middlesbrough Methodist Hub and Andrew Glazebrook the Building Manager.

NOVEMBER 29th We Pray for the time of Advent as we prepare ourselves to understand more about our faith and the coming of Jesus. Pray for all the church families in the Darlington District. Pray for Revd Richard Andrew our Chair of District.